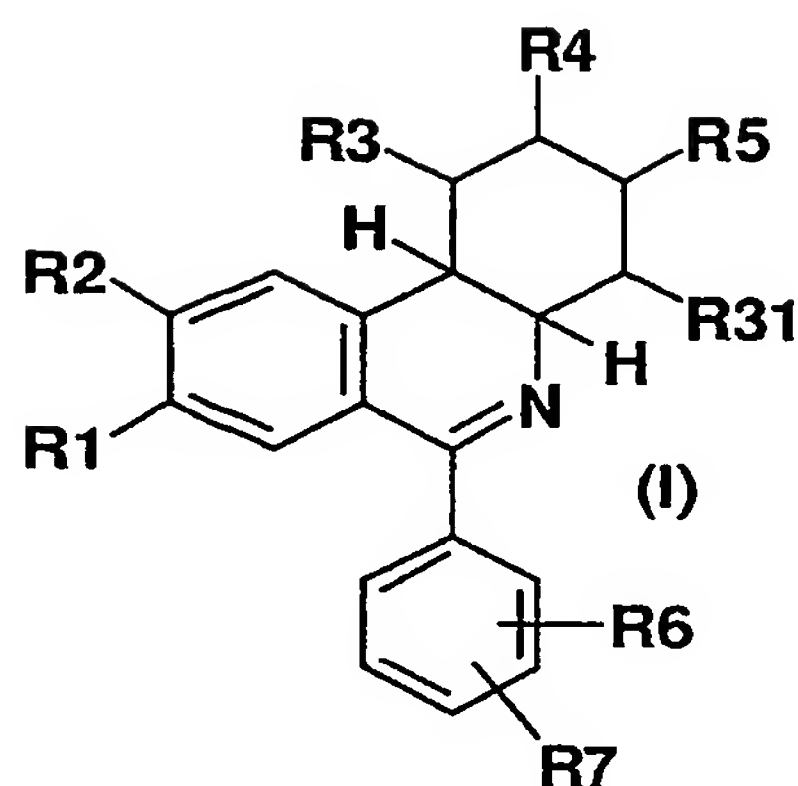


**Claims**

1. Compounds of formula I,



in which

R1 is hydroxyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, 3-7C-cycloalkoxy, 3-7C-cycloalkylmethoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy,

R2 is hydroxyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, 3-7C-cycloalkoxy, 3-7C-cycloalkylmethoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy,

or in which

R1 and R2 together are a 1-2C-alkylenedioxy group,

R3 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R31 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

either, in a first embodiment (embodiment a) according to the present invention,

R4 is -O-R41, in which

R41 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-7C-alkylcarbonyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkyl, and

R5 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

or, in a second embodiment (embodiment b) according to the present invention,

R4 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R5 is -O-R51, in which

R51 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-7C-alkylcarbonyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkyl,

R6 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

in a first aspect (aspect 1) according to this invention,

R7 is -S(O)<sub>2</sub>N(R8)R9, in which

R8 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 3-7C-cycloalkyl,

R9 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl,  
or R8 and R9 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are attached, form a heterocyclic ring Het1, in which  
Het1 is optionally substituted by R81, and is a 3- to 7-membered saturated monocyclic heterocyclic ring radical comprising the nitrogen atom, to which R8 and R9 are bonded, and optionally one further heteroatom selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur, in which  
R81 is 1-4C-alkyl,  
or, in a second aspect (aspect 2) according to this invention,  
R7 is -A-N(R10)S(O)<sub>2</sub>-R11, in which  
A is a bond or 1-4C-alkylene,  
R10 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,  
R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, or R111-substituted phenyl, in which  
R111 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl,  
or, in a third aspect (aspect 3) according to this invention,  
R7 is -S(O)<sub>n</sub>-R12, in which  
n is 0, 1 or 2,  
R12 is 1-4C-alkyl,  
and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

2. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1 in which

R1 is 1-2C-alkoxy, 3-5C-cycloalkoxy, 3-5C-cycloalkylmethoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-2C-alkoxy,  
R2 is 1-2C-alkoxy, 3-5C-cycloalkoxy, 3-5C-cycloalkylmethoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-2C-alkoxy,  
R3 is hydrogen,  
R31 is hydrogen,  
either, in a first embodiment (embodiment a) according to the present invention,  
R4 is -O-R41, in which  
R41 is hydrogen or 1-7C-alkylcarbonyl,  
R5 is hydrogen,  
or, in a second embodiment (embodiment b) according to the present invention,  
R4 is hydrogen, and  
R5 is -O-R51, in which  
R51 is hydrogen or 1-7C-alkylcarbonyl,  
R6 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,  
in a first aspect (aspect 1) according to this invention,  
R7 is -S(O)<sub>2</sub>N(R8)R9, in which

R8 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 3-7C-cycloalkyl,

R9 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl,

or R8 and R9 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are attached, form a heterocyclic ring Het1, in which

Het1 is a 3- to 7-membered saturated monocyclic heterocyclic ring radical comprising the nitrogen atom, to which R8 and R9 are bonded, and optionally one further heteroatom selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen, N(R81) and sulfur, in which

R81 is 1-4C-alkyl,

or, in a second aspect (aspect 2) according to this invention,

R7 is -A-N(R10)S(O)<sub>2</sub>R11, in which

A is a bond or 1-4C-alkylene,

R10 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, or R111-substituted phenyl, in which

R111 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

or, in a third aspect (aspect 3) according to this invention,

R7 is -S(O)<sub>n</sub>R12, in which

n is 0, 1 or 2,

R12 is 1-4C-alkyl,

and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

3. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1 in which

R1 is 1-2C-alkoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-2C-alkoxy,

R2 is 1-2C-alkoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-2C-alkoxy,

R3 is hydrogen,

R31 is hydrogen,

R4 is -O-R41, in which

R41 is 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl or hydrogen,

R5 is hydrogen,

R6 is hydrogen or methyl,

in a first aspect (aspect 1) according to this invention,

R7 is -S(O)<sub>2</sub>N(R8)R9, in which

R8 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 3-7C-cycloalkyl,

R9 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl,

or R8 and R9 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are attached, form a heterocyclic ring Het1, in which

Het1 is morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, 4-N-(R81)-piperazinyl, or 4-N-(R81)-homopiperazinyl, in which

R81 is 1-4C-alkyl,

or, in a second aspect (aspect 2) according to this invention,

R7 is -A-N(R10)S(O)<sub>2</sub>-R11, in which

A is a bond or 1-4C-alkylene,

R10 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, or R11-substituted phenyl, in which

R111 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

or, in a third aspect (aspect 3) according to this invention,

R7 is -S(O)<sub>n</sub>-R12, in which

n is 0, 1 or 2,

R12 is 1-4C-alkyl,

and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

4. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1 in which

R1 is 1-2C-alkoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-2C-alkoxy,

R2 is 1-2C-alkoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-2C-alkoxy,

R3 is hydrogen,

R31 is hydrogen,

R4 is -O-R41, in which

R41 is acetyl or hydrogen,

R5 is hydrogen,

R6 is hydrogen or methyl,

in a first aspect (aspect 1) according to this invention,

R7 is -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-N(R8)R9, in which

R8 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-ethyl or 3-5C-cycloalkyl,

R9 is hydrogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy-ethyl,

or R8 and R9 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are attached, form a heterocyclic ring Het1, in which

Het1 is morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl or 4-N-(R81)-piperazinyl, in which

R81 is 1-4C-alkyl,

or, in a second aspect (aspect 2) according to this invention,

R7 is -A-N(R10)S(O)<sub>2</sub>-R11, in which

A is a bond or 1-2C-alkylene,

R10 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, or R111-substituted phenyl, in which  
R111 is fluorine, chlorine or 1-4C-alkyl,  
or, in a third aspect (aspect 3) according to this invention,  
R7 is  $-S(O)_nR_{12}$ , in which  
n is 0, 1 or 2,  
R12 is 1-4C-alkyl,  
and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

5. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1 in which  
R1 is methoxy or ethoxy,  
R2 is methoxy, ethoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or difluoromethoxy,  
R3 is hydrogen,  
R31 is hydrogen,  
R4 is  $-O-R_{41}$ , in which  
R41 is hydrogen,  
R5 is hydrogen,  
R6 is hydrogen,  
in a first aspect (aspect 1) according to this invention,  
R7 is  $-S(O)_2N(R_8)R_9$ , in which  
R8 is methyl, ethyl, propyl, 2-methoxy-ethyl or cyclopropyl,  
R9 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or 2-methoxy-ethyl,  
or R8 and R9 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are attached, form a hetero-  
cyclic ring Het1, in which  
Het1 is morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl or 4-N-(R81)-piperazinyl, in which  
R81 is methyl,  
or, in a second aspect (aspect 2) according to this invention,  
R7 is  $-A-N(R_{10})S(O)_2R_{11}$ , in which  
A is a bond or methylene,  
R10 is hydrogen or methyl,  
R11 is R111-substituted phenyl, in which  
R111 is fluorine, chlorine or methyl,  
or, in a third aspect (aspect 3) according to this invention,  
R7 is  $-S(O)_nR_{12}$ , in which  
n is 0, 1 or 2,  
R12 is 1-4C-alkyl, such as e.g. methyl,  
and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

6. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1 in which

R1 is methoxy or ethoxy,

R2 is methoxy, ethoxy, 2,2-difluoroethoxy, or difluoromethoxy,

R3 is hydrogen,

R31 is hydrogen,

R4 is -O-R41, in which

R41 is hydrogen,

R5 is hydrogen,

R6 is hydrogen,

R7 is -S(O)<sub>n</sub>R12, in which

n is 0 or 1,

R12 is methyl,

and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

7. Compounds of formula I according to any of the preceding claims comprising one or more of the following:

R1 is methoxy,

R2 is ethoxy, difluoromethoxy or 2,2-difluoroethoxy, and

R3 and R31 are both hydrogen;

R4 is -O-R41, in which

R41 is hydrogen, and

R5 is hydrogen;

R6 is hydrogen; and

R7 is bonded to the meta- or para position with respect to the binding position, in which the phenyl ring is bonded to the phenanthridine ring system;

and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

8. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1 selected from

N-[4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-2-Hydroxy-8,9-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-phenyl]-4,N-dimethyl-benzenesulfonamide

4-Fluoro-N-[4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-2-hydroxy-8,9-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-phenyl]-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-2-Hydroxy-8,9-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-2-methyl-phenyl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-2-Hydroxy-8,9-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-benzyl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-phenyl]-methanesulfonamide

N-[4-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-phenyl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-phenyl]-4-fluoro-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-benzyl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-8-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-phenyl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-8-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-benzyl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

N-[4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-2-Hydroxy-8,9-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-phenyl]-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-2-Hydroxy-8,9-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-N,N-dipropyl-benzenesulfonamide

4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-Ethoxy-2-hydroxy-8-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-N,N-dipropyl-benzenesulfonamide

4-((2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-Ethoxy-2-hydroxy-8-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl)-N-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-N-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-9-methoxy-6-[4-(pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol

(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-9-methoxy-6-[4-(piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol

(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-9-methoxy-6-[3-(pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol

4-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-N,N-dipropyl-benzenesulfonamide

(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-9-methoxy-6-[4-(morpholine-4-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol

(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-9-methoxy-6-[3-(morpholine-4-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol

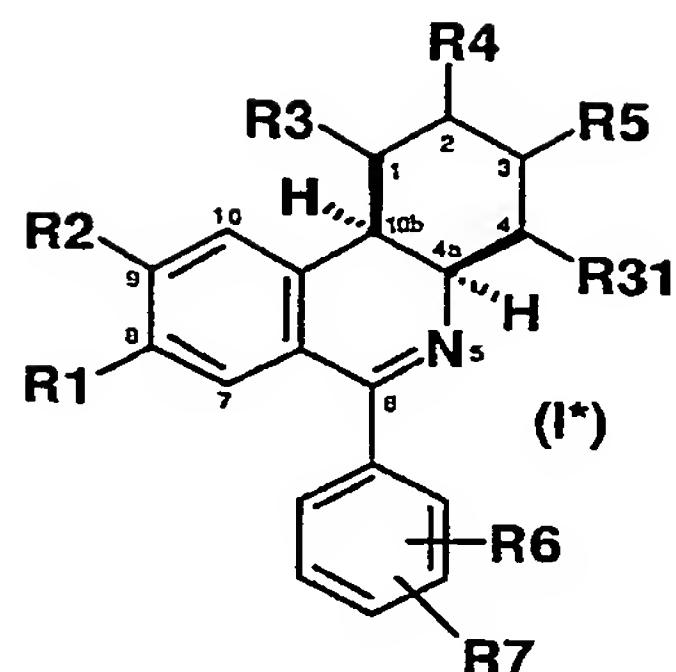
(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-9-methoxy-6-[3-(piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol

3-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-N,N-dimethyl-benzenesulfonamide  
 N-Cyclopropyl-3-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-benzenesulfonamide  
 3-[(2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-2-hydroxy-9-methoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-6-yl]-N,N-bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-benzenesulfonamide  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-8-(1,1-Difluoro-methoxy)-9-methoxy-6-[3-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-(2,2-Difluoro-ethoxy)-8-methoxy-6-[3-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-(2,2-Difluoro-ethoxy)-8-methoxy-6-[4-(pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-6-(3-Methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-8,9-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-Ethoxy-8-methoxy-6-(4-methylsulfanyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2R,4aR,10bR)-9-Ethoxy-8-methoxy-6-(4-methylsulfanyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-(2,2-Difluoro-ethoxy)-8-methoxy-6-(4-methylsulfanyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-(2,2-Difluoro-ethoxy)-8-methoxy-6-(3-methylsulfanyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 (2RS,4aRS,10bRS)-9-(2,2-Difluoro-ethoxy)-8-methoxy-6-(3-methylsulfinyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol and  
 (2R,4aR,10bR)-9-Ethoxy-8-methoxy-6-(4-methylsulfinyl-phenyl)-1,2,3,4,4a,10b-hexahydro-phenanthridin-2-ol  
 the enantiomers, as well as the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds and enantiomers..

9. Compounds of formula I according to any of the preceding claims, which have with respect to the positions 4a and 10b the configuration shown in formula I\*:

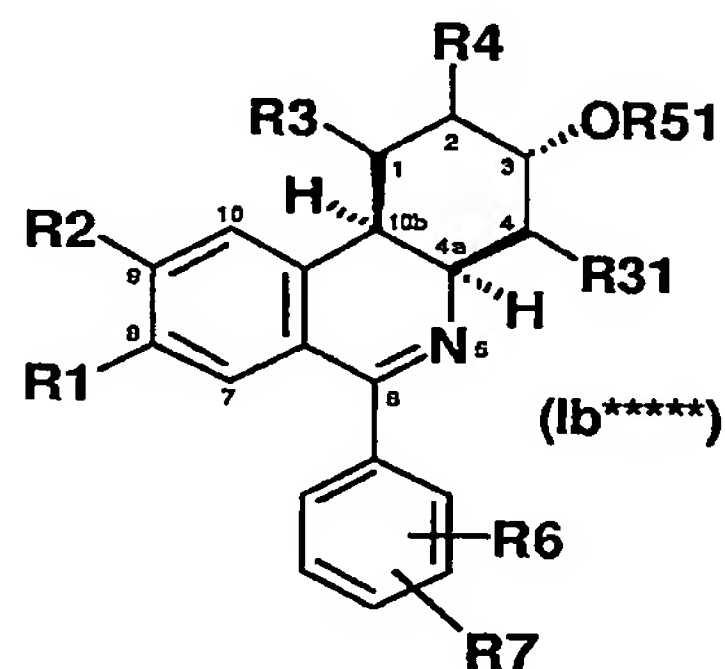
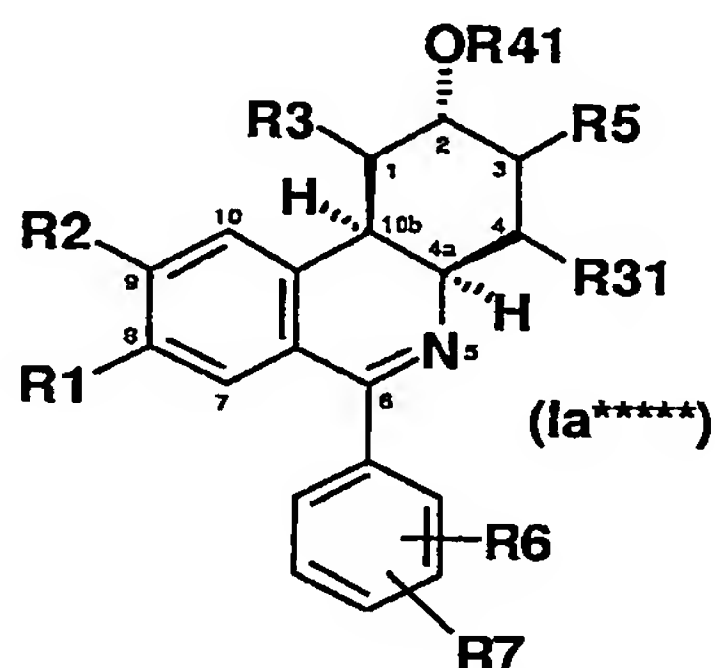


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and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

10. Compounds of formula I according to any of the preceding claims, which have with respect to the positions 2, 4a and 10b the configuration shown in formula Ia\*\*\*\*\*, or, which have with respect to the positions 3, 4a and 10b the configuration shown in formula Ib\*\*\*\*\*:



and the salts, the N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

11. Compounds of formula I as claimed in claim 1 for use in the treatment of diseases.
12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more compounds of formula I as claimed in claim 1 together with customary pharmaceutical excipients and/or vehicles.
13. The use of compounds of formula I as claimed in claim 1 for the production of pharmaceutical compositions for treating respiratory disorders.
14. The use of compounds of formula I as claimed in claim 1 for the production of pharmaceutical compositions for treating PDE-mediated disorders.

15. A method for treating illnesses in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1.

16. A method for treating airway disorders in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1.